

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 127754

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INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY: EA/ANP:JDORRANCE

APPROVED BY: EA/ANP:LJMOSE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 127754

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION WELLINGTON FROM SECSTATE JUNE 29

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 127754

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, NZ

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER KIRK

1. PLEASE TRANSMIT FOLLOWING LETTER FROM PRESIDENT

NIXON TO PRIME MINISTER KIRK: QUOTE: JUNE 25, 1973

DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:

UNFORTUNATELY THERE HAS BEEN SOME MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT A POSSIBLE MEETING BETWEEN US. AS IT AROSE FROM A PREMATURE RELEASE TO THE PRESS ON THIS SIDE OF THE PACIFIC, I WANT TO EXPRESS MY FORMAL REGRETS TO YOU ON THIS OCCASION.

I WOULD IN FACT WELCOME AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE YOU DURING THE COURSE OF THE YEAR AT A TIME WHEN IT WOULD BE MUTUALLY CONVENIENT. I QUITE UNDERSTAND THAT IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO VISIT WASHINGTON AT THE TIME OF THE COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS' MEETING IN OTTAWA.

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I WOULD, HOWEVER, ENJOY MEETING WITH YOU HERE IF YOU

ATTEND THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION IN
NEW YORK NEXT FALL, OR AT SOME LATER DATE WHICH WOULD
BE CONVENIENT TO YOU.

IT IS MOST IMPORTANT, IN MY OPINION, FOR US TO MEET
RELATIVELY SOON, AS THERE ARE A NUMBER OF INTERESTS AND

CONCERNS WHICH WE SHOULD DISCUSS. NEW ZEALAND AND THE
UNITED STATES HAVE LONG HAD CLOSE TIES, AND I AM MOST
ANXIOUS TO MAINTAIN THEM, AS I KNOW YOU ARE AS WELL.

WITH EVERY GOOD WISH, SINCERELY, RICHARD NIXON
UNQUOTE.

2. WE DO NOT PLAN TO RELEASE TEXT AND PREFER GNZ NOT DO
SO BUT HAVE NO OBJECTION IF GNZ WISHES ANNOUNCE FACT OF
LETTER AND INVITATION IN SUBSTANCE.

3. SIGNED ORIGINAL BEING FORWARDED SEPARATELY. ROGERS
UNQUOTE ROGERS

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